



BRIDGNORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1963.





PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	-	Margaret H. F. Turnbull, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	-	D. A. Pamphilon, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.
ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	-	J. Stocker, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

CONTENTS OF THE REPORT

SECTION A	-	Statistics.
" B	-	General Provision of Health Services.
" C	-	Sanitary Circumstances in the Area.
" D	-	Housing.
" E	-	Food - Inspection and Supervision.
" F	-	Infectious Diseases.

BRIDGNORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Westgate,  
Bridgnorth.  
June, 1964.

To the Chairman and Councillors,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1963. As in previous years, the Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. D. A. Pamphilon, has been entirely responsible for the preparation of Sections 'C', 'D' and 'E'.

A few points from the various Sections may be picked out for mention at this stage, by way of introduction.

1. The mid-year population, as estimated by the Registrar-General, shows a marked drop as compared with the corresponding estimates for 1962 and preceding years. This decrease may be attributed almost entirely to the closure of the R.A.F. Station early in 1963.

The Birth Rate, Death Rate and Infant Mortality Rate for the year are all highly satisfactory, and are all better than the corresponding Rates for the country as a whole.

The Birth Rate is the highest to be recorded for the District since 1950; the Death Rate is our lowest in the same period, and the Infant Mortality Rate, the second lowest. We cannot be so proud of the Still Birth Rate however, which is somewhat above the national average for the year, and is the second highest for the area since 1950.

2. Apart from Measles, which was prevalent among the child population in the 2nd and 3rd quarters of the year, and Whooping Cough which occurred to a lesser degree in the 4th quarter, the incidence of the notifiable infectious diseases was pleasingly low.

3. The East Shropshire Water Board took over the Council's Water Undertaking in April 1963 and thus became responsible for all mains supplies in the District, except in those areas already served by the Wolverhampton Water Undertaking.

Work on the Joint High Level Water Supply Scheme commenced in September. By the end of the year the excavations for Coreley Reservoir had been completed, and main-laying towards Burwarton was in progress.

4. Alveley Sewerage Scheme, commenced the previous year, met with a serious setback when financial difficulties of the Contractors necessitated the cancellation of their contract with the Council in October 1963. It was expected that fresh tenders for this much needed Scheme would be invited early in 1964.

5. No Council houses were completed during the year, but 12 houses, and a group of 6 bungalows for elderly people were in course of construction at Highley.

Seventy-nine privately built houses were completed, and a further 75 were under construction at 31st December.

6. The comprehensive Survey of the District, commenced in 1961, was finally completed in 1963. This provides full details on the condition and amenities of every house in the area, and should prove most valuable to the Council when formulating future policy.

In conclusion, I should like to express my appreciation to all those who have assisted in the preparation of this Report, and in particular to Mr. D. A. Pamphilon, Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. J. Stocker, Additional Public Health Inspector, and Mrs. M. Walker, our Clerical Assistant. Their willing co-operation and help in all matters throughout the year is also gratefully acknowledged.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

MARGARET H. F. TURNBULL,

Medical Officer of Health.



SECTION 'A'

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District in acres	100,897
Estimated Population (Mid-1963)	13,590
Number of Inhabited Houses (at 31:12:63)	4,330
Rateable Value of the District (at 31: 3:64)	£335,258
Estimated Product of 1d. Rate (at 31: 3:64)	£1,270

VITAL STATISTICS

1. POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate of the population of the district at mid-1963 was 13,590, a decrease of 2,540 on the corresponding estimate for 1962. This drop is undoubtedly due mainly to the closure of the R.A.F. Station Bridgnorth early in 1963.

The "natural increase" in population, i.e. the difference between the number of live births and the number of deaths, was 129. This is the highest natural increase in the past 14 years.

ESTIMATED MID-YEAR POPULATION - 1950-1963

Year	Mid-Year Population	Natural Increase
1950	16,580	92
1951	16,590	83
1952	16,510	89
1953	16,540	104
1954	16,180	108
1955	16,100	108
1956	17,010	69
1957	16,720	107
1958	17,080	100
1959	17,190	111
1960	17,600	86
1961	15,100	78
1962	16,130	89
1963	13,590	129

2. BIRTHS

(a) Live Births

LIVE BIRTHS 1963

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total Live Births
Male	121	4	125
Female	118	1	119
Total	239	5	244
Rate per 1,000 of Population	17.6	0.4	17.9

Crude Birth Rate, per 1,000 of population	- 17.9
Standardised Birth Rate, per 1,000 of population	- 20.3
Birth Rate for England and Wales, 1963	- 18.2

There were 244 live births in the area during 1963 - 16 more than in 1962, and the highest number in the 14 years for which records are readily available. Of these 244 births, 5 were illegitimate (2.0%)

The Standardised Birth Rate for the year was 20.3 per 1,000 of the population, which is our highest in the past 14 years and well above the national average for 1963 of 18.2

LIVE BIRTHS 1950-1963

Year	No. of live births	No. of illegitimate live births	Standardised Birth-Rate per 1,000 of population
1950	210	10	14.2
1951	220	2	18.4
1952	227	*	19.0
1953	234	10	19.8
1954	229	6	17.6
1955	232	10	17.9
1956	206	4	15.0
1957	226	14	16.6
1958	229	9	16.5
1959	233	7	16.7
1960	213	8	14.9
1961	211	4	17.2
1962	228	6	17.4
1963	244	5	20.3

\*Figure not available

(b) Still Births

STILL BIRTHS 1963

Male	4
Female	<u>3</u>
Total	7

Still-Birth Rate, per 1,000 total births - 27.9  
Still-Birth Rate, England and Wales 1963 - 17.3

There were 7 still-births in the District during the year, 4 more than in 1962.

The Still-Birth Rate, per 1,000 total births (i.e. live-births and still-births combined) was 27.9, which is well above the national average for 1963 which was 17.3.

Wide annual variations in this Rate are liable to occur in areas of small population as may be seen from the last column in the Table below.

STILL-BIRTHS 1950-1963

Year	No. of live births	No. of still births	Still Birth-Rate per 1,000 total births
1950	210	2	9.4
1951	220	3	13.0
1952	227	4	17.3
1953	234	4	16.7
1954	229	4	17.2
1955	232	4	16.9
1956	206	4	19.0
1957	226	4	17.0
1958	229	8	33.8
1959	233	2	8.5
1960	213	3	13.9
1961	211	5	23.1
1962	228	5	13.0
1963	244	7	27.9

### 3. DEATHS

Male - 59  
 Female - 56  
 Total - 115

Crude Death Rate, per 1,000 of population - 8.5  
 Standardised Death Rate, per 1,000 of population - 10.8  
 Death Rate for England and Wales, 1963 - 12.2

There were 115 deaths in the District in 1963 - 24 fewer than in 1962, and the lowest number for the past 14 years. Of these, 65 were due to conditions affecting the Heart or Circulation (56.5%), and 15 to Malignant Disease (13.0%).

The Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 of the population was 10.8, which is well below the average Death Rate for England and Wales of 12.2.

#### DEATHS 1950-1963

Year	No. of deaths	Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 of population
1950	118	8.5
1951	137	9.3
1952	138	9.7
1953	130	9.3
1954	121	8.9
1955	124	9.1
1956	137	10.4
1957	119	9.1
1958	129	9.7
1959	122	9.1
1960	127	9.2
1961	133	11.3
1962	139	11.0
1963	115	10.8

#### CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1963

The Registrar-General's annual return gives the causes of death in the area during 1963 as follows:-

				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis - respiratory	..	..		1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm - stomach	..	..		2	2	4
Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus	..	..		4	1	5
Malignant neoplasm - breast	..	..		-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm - uterus	..	..		-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms				3	1	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..		6	11	17
Coronary disease, angina	..	..		14	5	19
Hypertension with heart disease	..	..		-	2	2
Other heart diseases	..	..		11	12	23
Other circulatory diseases	..	..		2	2	4
Pneumonia..	..	..		1	2	3
Bronchitis	..	..		4	1	5
Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..		1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and deudenum	..	..		1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis..	..	..		-	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate..	..	..		1	-	1
Congenital malformations	..	..		1	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases				2	10	12
Motor vehicle accidents	..	..		2	-	2
All other accidents	..	..		2	2	4
Suicide	..	..		<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
				59	56	<u>115</u>



4. INFANT MORTALITY

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE. 1963

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
Male	1	-	1
Female	2	-	2
Total	3	-	3

Infant Mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births - 12.3  
Infant Mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births  
(England and Wales 1963) - 20.9

Of the 244 babies born alive during the year, only 3 failed to survive the first twelve months of live. In fact all 3 succumbed during their first week.

The Infant Mortality Rate for 1963 was therefore 12.3 per 1,000 live births which is considerably lower than the national average for the year of 20.9, and represents a pleasing drop from our own Rate of 35.1 for 1962.

INFANT MORTALITY 1950-1963

(1) Year	(2) Number of Live Births	(3) No. of Infant Deaths		(4) Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	(5)** Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births
		Under 1 yr	Under 4 wks		
1950	210	8	7	38.1	33.3
1951	220	3	*	13.6	*
1952	227	7	*	30.8	*
1953	234	6	4	25.5	17.1
1954	229	3	2	13.1	8.7
1955	232	4	2	17.2	8.6
1956	206	7	5	34.0	24.3
1957	226	6	6	26.5	26.5
1958	229	7	2	30.6	8.7
1959	233	2	1	8.6	4.3
1960	213	9	7	42.2	32.9
1961	211	5	5	23.7	23.7
1962	228	8	3	35.1	13.1
1963	244	3	3	12.3	12.3

\* Figures not available

\*\* Refers to deaths occurring during the first month of life

5. MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were again no deaths related to pregnancy or childbirth in 1963, this being the ninth successive year with no maternal mortality. Since 1950, there have only been two maternal deaths, one in 1953 and one in 1954.

## SECTION 'B'

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

#### 1. HOSPITAL AND SPECIALIST SERVICES.

All hospitals in the area are administered by Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, through its Hospital Management Committee.

The general hospitals most easily accessible to inhabitants of the Rural District are those at Bridgnorth, Kidderminster, Shrewsbury and Wolverhampton. All provide out-patient and in-patient treatment.

Infectious Disease cases are admitted to the isolation hospitals at Wolverhampton or Shrewsbury, and patients with Tuberculosis receive treatment at Copthorne Hospital or Cross Houses Hospital.

The chronic sick requiring hospital treatment are generally admitted to New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton, East Hamlet Hospital, Ludlow, or Shifnal Hospital.

#### 2. GENERAL MEDICAL, DENTAL, PHARMACEUTICAL AND SUPPLEMENTARY OPHTHALMIC SERVICES.

These services are administered by the Salop Executive Council, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury.

#### 3. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES.

Salop County Council, as Local Health Authority, is responsible for the provision and administration of the following services:-

- Health Centres (None in this area)
- Care of mothers and young children
- Domiciliary Midwifery
- Health Visiting
- Home Nursing
- Vaccination and Immunisation
- Ambulance Services
- Prevention of illness, care and after-care
- Domestic Help Service

##### (a) Child Welfare

The one Child Welfare Clinic in the Rural District is held at Highley Youth Club on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoons in each month from 1.30 - 4.30 p.m. It is a most popular clinic, and attendances of infants and toddlers throughout the year have been excellent.

Other Child Welfare Clinics, accessible to those in various parts of the District, are held either at weekly or fortnightly intervals at Bridgnorth, Cleobury Mortimer and Much Wenlock.

##### (b) Welfare Foods

The National Welfare Foods (National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, Cod-Liver Oil, and Vitamin 'A' and 'D' tablets) are available at the Welfare Centres during Clinic hours, and at various conveniently situated distribution points throughout the district.

(c) Health Visiting, Home Nursing, Domiciliary Midwifery

One full-time Health Visitor serves a large part of the District adjacent to Bridgnorth, and Health Visiting in other parts of the area is undertaken by the local District-Nurse-Midwives in addition to their other duties.

Two District-Nurse-Midwives are stationed in the Rural District - one at Highley, and one at Hilton. The rest of the District is served by Nurses based outside its area.

(d) Vaccination and Immunisation

Under the County Council's Scheme, Vaccination against Smallpox, and Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping-Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis may be carried out by arrangements with a general practitioner, or at any Child Welfare Centre, by appointment.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis is offered each year to all children aged 11 - 13 years who are found by preliminary testing to require this protection. Only very few parents refuse their consent for this procedure, which is carried out at the schools.

(e) Ambulance Service.

The Central Ambulance Department for the County is in Shrewsbury (Telephone No. Shrewsbury 6331) to which all requests for an ambulance should be made. Two ambulances and a car for sitting-cases are stationed in Bridgnorth for use on local journeys.

(f) Domestic Help Service

The service of a domestic help is available, in the words of the Act, for "any person who is ill, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age". Enquiries regarding this service are dealt with at the Domestic Help Office, Bridgnorth Welfare Centre (Telephone No. Bridgnorth 3078) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 2.15 and 4.30 p.m.



SECTION 'C'

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

The Senior Public Health Inspector reports as follows:-

WATER SUPPLIES

Since the 1st April, 1963 the responsibility for providing mains water supplies to the Rural District (other than the parishes of Claverley, Worfield and Rudge), has been vested in the East Shropshire Water Board.

JOINT HIGH LEVEL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME.

The above scheme is one which was entered into jointly by the Ludlow and Bridgnorth Rural District Councils, and is now being administered by the East Shropshire Water Board.

Water will be supplied from the Elan Aqueduct in the Ludlow Rural District area where it will be pumped to a reservoir at Coreley. It will then be chlorinated and distributed by gravity to some 17 parishes in the district.

Work was commenced on the scheme in September 1963. By the end of the year the excavation for Coreley reservoir was completed and main laying towards Burwar-ton was making good progress.

LOW LEVEL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME.

Water is supplied to the above scheme from the Elan Aqueduct which passes through the Southern parishes of the district.

The water is taken from the aqueduct at five points where it is chlorinated and then distributed by gravity to some twenty parishes in the Rural District.

A further small branch main in the Broad Lanes, Six Ashes, area is under consideration by the Water Board at the request of the Council.

CLAVERLEY, WORFIELD AND RUDGE.

These parishes are within the Statutory area of the Wolverhampton Water Undertaking and the main centres of population are well served. The water comes from boreholes at Hilton where it is chlorinated and distributed to the above parishes.

Reports from the Wolverhampton Water Engineer show that water supplied to the district is chlorinated, and bacteriological sampling has proved the supply to be satisfactory.

PREMISES RECEIVING WATER FROM PUBLIC PIPED SUPPLIES AT 31st DECEMBER, 1963.

	<u>No. of Premises</u>	
	<u>Direct Supply</u>	<u>Standpipes</u>
Acton Round	4	-
Alvelcy	232	24
Astley Abbots	84	1
Aston Botterell	3	-
Billingsley	27	-
Chelmarsh	115	-
Chetton	45	-
Claverley	383	6
Deuxhill	7	-
Eardington	96	-
Glazeley	5	-
Highley	676	-
Kinlet	134	-
Middleton Scriven	10	-
Morville	57	-
Neen Savage	90	-
Ncenton	11	-
Quatt	5	-
Romsley	12	-
Rudge	5	-
Sidbury	2	-
Stottesdon	141	2
Tasley	67	-
Worfield	515	4
	<u>2,726</u>	<u>37</u>

## PURITY OF SUPPLIES

### (a) MAINS SUPPLIES

All mains water now supplied to the district is received from the Birmingham and Wolverhampton Water Undertakings.

Regular sampling of the water throughout the system is carried out to ensure that the chlorination has been effective and that no pollution has occurred in the course of distribution.

Samples are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Shrewsbury, for bacteriological analysis. A summary of the reports received during 1963 is as follows:-

	<u>Public Mains</u>	<u>Elan Aqueduct</u>
Highly satisfactory	77	20
Not entirely satisfactory	4	1
Unsatisfactory	4	3

The regular sampling of the mains water supplies in the district is an essential routine which is carried out to ensure the efficiency of the system.

### (b) PRIVATE SUPPLIES, WELLS AND SPRINGS ETC.

No routine sampling of private supplies is undertaken, but those which have been sampled have shown a generally poor standard of bacteriological quality on analysis.

Advice has been given in many cases on appropriate measures to be taken for either the protection of the source of supply or methods of sterilisation.

It must be stressed that persons owning such supplies and who provide other persons with water should be aware of their responsibility to provide a pure and wholesome supply.

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

There are four public sewerage schemes within the Council's area, in the villages of Claverley, Eardington, Highley and Worfield.

The Council have given consideration to providing schemes in all the main centres of population within the district and a tentative programme has been considered. It is hoped that progress with the first of these schemes will not long be delayed, and with this in mind the Council have instructed their Consulting Engineers to concentrate on the preparation of detailed schemes in respect of the villages of Stottesdon, Ackleton and Stableford, and Morville.

However, it is disappointing to have to record that the Council have generally met with a certain amount of opposition when endeavouring to acquire land for sewage disposal sites, pumping stations and accesses. This has caused considerable delay in the programme.

The sites originally selected are generally the most suitable for economic and engineering reasons.

## PARISH REPORTS

ALVELEY: Work on the scheme for this village commenced in 1962, but unfortunately the Contractors ran into financial difficulties and an unsatisfactory rate of progress resulted. The contract was terminated in October 1963 and it is expected that the contract will again be put out to tender in 1964 when new bills of quantity etc. have been prepared.

The disposal of effluents from septic tanks in the Woodlands area is still proving difficult, and it is hoped that as the scheme progresses, the sewerage of this area will quickly follow.



HIGHLEY: The Surveyor reported to the Council in October that it was becoming increasingly difficult to maintain a satisfactory effluent at these works.

Accordingly the Consulting Engineers were instructed to investigate the position and if necessary to formulate a revised scheme for the enlargement of the works for submission to the Ministry.

EARDINGTON: Since the completion of this scheme in 1959, a considerable amount of development has taken place within the village. This development is such that the Council have considered the desirability of providing for the duplication of the existing units of the works.

During the year the Consulting Engineers reported to the Council on a scheme for improving the final effluent from the works. This to be by irrigation over grassland and the effluent will be piped in porous concrete pipes.

CLAVERLEY AND WORFIELD: The sewage disposal works in these villages continue to function satisfactorily and good effluent samples are being obtained.

#### PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL

By far the greatest number of houses within the district rely on septic tanks as the means of sewage disposal. A survey of the district has shown that at the end of the year, 1,726 houses are using this method of disposal. The septic tank may be considered a satisfactory method of sewage disposal in a rural area only if it is properly maintained at regular intervals, and if adequate care is taken in disposal of the effluent.

#### REFUSE AND REFUSE DISPOSAL

The Council continued to collect refuse from all parishes by direct labour throughout the year. A weekly collection is made in the more densely populated areas, and a fortnightly collection in the outlying areas. It is, of course, impracticable to collect from certain isolated and/or inaccessible properties.

Refuse is disposed of by semi-controlled tipping, the tips being situated at Highley, Alveley and Ditton Priors. A former mine shaft at Kinlet is also used for tipping.

The difficulty of finding adequate soil for covering the tip faces still exists. The only satisfactory solution to this problem would appear to be the acquisition of a centrally situated tip where mechanical equipment would be used to achieve fully controlled tipping.

#### FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

The Council is responsible, by the provisions of part I of the Factories Act, 1961 for ensuring the adequacy and suitability of sanitary conveniences in all factories in the district, and in the case of factories in which mechanical power is not used, is also responsible for inspecting the premises to ensure that working conditions are satisfactory.

At the end of 1963 there were 28 factories on the register, all using mechanical power.

A total of 20 inspections of factories was made during the year, when no defects were found. (See appendix at the end of the Report).

AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956.

Sections 3 and 5 of the above Act place a duty on Local Authorities in connection with the provisions of sanitary conveniences on farms where agricultural workers are employed.

Specific visits are not made to agricultural holdings for this purpose, but when such premises are visited, the subject is borne in mind. On no occasion has it been found necessary to serve notices, the desired result always being obtained by an informal talk with the farmer concerned.

PEST CONTROL

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, requires a Local Authority to inspect all premises in their district, and to ensure that any infestations of rats and mice are dealt with by the Authority, (or by the occupier in the case of trade and agricultural premises).

In addition to the routine inspections of the district, the Rodent Operative answered 73 requests from householders and tradespeople during the course of the year. In addition, all sewers maintained by the Council are regularly inspected and test-baited, disinfestation treatments being carried out where necessary.

The service is extensively used in controlling rat infestations on Council tips, and fly infestations on tips and around sewage works.

The following table shows the work carried out during the year:-

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	All other, including Business etc	Agricultural
No. of properties in district	27	3,193	568	1,051
No. of proper- ties surveyed	27	1,968	84	716
Treatments carried out	29	202	19	257

It was considered necessary to continue spraying the refuse-tips at intervals throughout the Winter. This procedure was adopted as optimum conditions for fly-breeding exist on refuse-tips even during the colder parts of the year.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960.

There are now 11 licensed sites on which are stationed 673 caravans, these all being used for weekend and holiday use only. In addition there are 22 individually licensed caravans.

The area of the Severn Valley still attracts people from the industrial Midlands as a convenient and desirable location for caravanning. If this trend were allowed to continue without planning control, the area would very soon become over-run with caravans.

The Council have, therefore, adopted a policy of endeavouring to direct caravans to multiple licensed sites where they can be controlled and provided with the essential amenities.



## VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

The following list shows the nature and number of inspections and visits made by the Public Health Inspectors throughout the year.

A considerable amount of time has been spent on the Housing Survey. This was completed during the year, and now affords valuable information on the condition of houses and the sanitary circumstances in the area. It is hoped that this information will enable a planned programme of improvement to take place both in housing and in the Council's other services.

Housing	- Public Health Act	81
	- Housing Act	116
	- Rent Act	1
	- Applications	59
	- Miscellaneous	67
	- Revisits to property	19
	- Interviews with owners etc.	28
	- Drainage	102
Complaints		102
Tips		14
Water supply	- General	70
	- Samples	157
Rodent Control	- Domestic	2
	- Trade	7
	- Farms	58
Verminous premises		10
Factories Act		20
Meat Inspection	- Slaughterhouses	1,136
Food and Drugs	- Catering	27
	- Retail shops	44
	- Licensed premises	26
	- Butchers	18
	- Fried fish shops	1
	- Bakehouses	7
	- Ice-cream samples	17
	- Condemned foods	2
Swimming baths		7
Infectious diseases	- Enquiries	23
	- Houses disinfected	1
Miscellaneous		66
Caravans		53
Caravan sites		41
Survey of district		<u>914</u>
Total.. .. .		<u>3,296</u>

## SWIMMING POOLS

There is one privately owned open air swimming pool in the area which is open to the public. It is also used by organised parties of school children.

The water from the bath is supplied from a borehole and is treated by chlorination, filtration and aeration.

The results of some of the bacteriological samples taken from the pool during the season indicated that the water treatment plant was not working satisfactorily. This was rectified and the plant is to be further overhauled during the closed season.

The owners of the pool were also asked to provide additional sanitary accommodation, and it is hoped that this will be available for the Summer of 1964.

SECTION 'D'

HOUSING

(Figures at 31st December, 1963)

Number of inhabited houses	4,330
" " Council owned houses	498
" " houses completed	
(a) Council	Nil
(b) Private	79
" " applications for houses	228
" " houses under construction	
(a) Council	18
(b) Private	75

The figures for Council-owned houses includes the agricultural hostels at Stottesdon and Morville converted some years ago into self-contained dwellings.

79 privately built houses were completed (as compared with 49 in 1962), and a further 75 were in course of construction at the 31st December, 1963. The total number of private dwellings built in the post-war years is 418 as compared with 442 built by the Council in the same period.

POST WAR COUNCIL HOUSE BUILDING

Parish	Completed in year ending 31.12.63	Under Construction at 31.12.63	Total Completed Post-War
Alveley	-	-	50
Chelmarsh	-	-	12
Chetton	-	-	6
Claverley	-	-	44
Ditton Priors	-	-	20
Eardington	-	-	16
Eudon George	-	-	6
Highley	-	18	136
Kinlet	-	-	14
Monkhopton	-	-	14
Morville	-	-	18*
Neen Savage	-	-	10
Neenton	-	-	8
Shipton	-	-	6
Stottesdon	-	-	15*
Tasley	-	-	6
Worfield	-	-	61
	Nil	18	442
Highley - Pre-war houses			56

Total of all houses.. .. 498

(\* Includes hostels converted into flats)

A further 12 houses, and 6 bungalows for elderly people, are in the course of erection at Highley in a further extension of the Rhea Hall Estate. The six bungalows will be connected to a warden's house by a bell system, for use in emergencies by the residents.

A further 40 houses and flats are to be built at Alveley, 20 of which will be scheduled to be completed with the sewerage scheme for the village.

It is also hoped that a further 12 houses will be provided at Hilton during 1964.

## HOUSING ALLOCATION

During the year 59 visits were made to the homes of housing applicants to ascertain their suitability as Council house tenants.

At the end of 1963, there were 228 applications on the Council's housing list, but this figure would appear to exaggerate the housing need in the district as many of the applicants are from outside the Council's area.

During the year 17 houses were allocated.

## IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

### DISCRETIONARY GRANTS - (HOUSING ACT, 1949)

	<u>Received</u>		<u>Approved</u>		<u>Rejected</u>	
	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
a) No. of applications	17	22	16	20	1	1
b) No. of dwellings involved	23	30	22	28	1	1
				<u>1962</u>		<u>1963</u>
No. of above applications approved in respect of						
Owner/Occupiers				1		3
Average total cost per dwelling approved				£883		£881
Amount of grant paid stated as a %				50		50

### STANDARD GRANTS - (HOUSE PURCHASE & HOUSING ACT, 1959, AND HOUSING ACT, 1961).

	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
No. of applications received	15	17
No. approved	15	16
Average cost per property	£150	£140

There has been a slight increase over the previous year in the number of applications for grants. The Council is continuing to publicise these grants, and every opportunity is taken to encourage owners of suitable houses to take advantage of them.

It is hoped that further impetus may be given to this work by the planned improvement of houses in those villages and areas where water and sewerage schemes are now available.

## SLUM CLEARANCE.

During the year 13 houses were dealt with under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 as being unfit for human habitation. In addition, a further 2 houses were demolished and 3 houses were made fit as a result of undertakings given to the Council.

The recent survey of houses in the area has shown that there are 230 houses which are considered to be unfit and not repairable at a reasonable expense in accordance with the Housing Act, 1957. In addition, there are a further 153 houses, detailed inspections of which may prove that they could not be rendered fit economically.



SECTION 'E'

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are two licensed slaughterhouses in the district. One, at Claverley, is used by one butcher in conjunction with his shop; the other, at Eardington, is used by nine butchers, six of whom have their shops in neighbouring Authorities' areas.

It will be seen from the accompanying table that all animals slaughtered at the slaughterhouses were inspected as soon as possible after slaughter. On October 1st, the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963 came into force, requiring Local Authorities to inspect all meat slaughtered within their district, and prohibiting the removal of carcasses from slaughterhouses until they have been marked with the Local Authority's stamp. In addition to prescribing the manner in which inspections must be carried out, the Regulations empower Councils to make a charge for inspections.

A great proportion of the Public Health Department's time is now being taken up on this essential service.

The table below gives details of all carcasses inspected and condemned at the slaughterhouses in the district during 1963.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed and inspected	918	50	70	4,793	1,962	Nil
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS:						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	Nil	1	8	4	Nil
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	29	Nil	2	25	33	Nil
Percentage of No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	3.99	Nil	4.28	.68	1.88	Nil
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:						
Whole carcass condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	Nil
Percentage of No. inspected affected	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	.14	Nil
CYSTICERCOSIS:      There were no cases of CYSTICERCOSIS						

The total amount of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption at the slaughterhouses during the year was 13 cwts. 2 qtrs. 11 lbs.

The siting of the Eardington slaughterhouse, in an important fatstock producing area, makes it a convenient slaughterhouse to receive casualty animals. Although many of these animals must be treated with suspicion by the Meat Inspector, it is possible, after thorough examination, to approve many as fit for human consumption.

Again it is pleasing to report the absence of tuberculosis in cattle and cows, and a further significant drop to .14% in the incidence of the disease in pigs.

## METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED MEAT

All meat found to be unfit for human consumption at the slaughterhouses is removed by an approved knacker in accordance with the Meat (Staining and Sterilising) Regulations, 1960.

## FOOD HYGIENE

Visits to foodshops and catering premises in the area has shown that a satisfactory standard of food hygiene is still being practised by those persons handling food. However, routine visits to many foodshops during the year showed a lack of knowledge of how frozen foodstuffs should be stored, and how frozen food cabinets should be maintained. It was, therefore, thought advisable to circularise all food-retailers in the district with a letter stressing the importance of this subject, and detailing the code of practice which should be followed.

## ICE-CREAM

By the end of the year there were 41 premises in the district registered for the sale of ice-cream. There are no manufacturers of ice-cream in the district, the product sold in each case being pre-wrapped.

17 samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Shrewsbury during the year, the results of which are detailed below:-

<u>Grade 1</u>	<u>Grade 2</u>	<u>Grade 3</u>	<u>Grade 4</u>
15	2	Nil	Nil

As a guide to interpreting the above results, it is suggested that over a six-monthly period, 50% of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1, 80% into Grades 1 and 2, not more than 20% into Grade 3 and none into Grade 4.

## FOOD PREMISES

### a) THE TYPE OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE AREA:

1. Butchers' shops	10
2. Fried fish shops	2
3. Bakehouses	4
4. Licensed premises	51
5. Licensed clubs	8
6. Catering premises	28
7. General provisions stores	42
8. School canteens - (without kitchen)	9
9. School canteens - (with kitchen)	6

### b) PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955:

1. Manufacturers of preserved foods	8
2. Ice-cream dealers	41

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

The Food and Drugs Authority for this area is the Salop County Council and the following is the report received of the work carried out in this district:-

<u>Milk</u>	<u>No. of Samples Taken</u>
Pasteurised	9
T.T. Pasteurised	9
T.T.C.I. Pasteurised	9
Sterilised	8
T.T. Farm Bottled	8
T.T.C.I. Farm Bottled	2
Bulk milk ex farms	<u>36</u>

81

All the samples proved to be satisfactory, with the exception of 2 samples of T.T. farm bottled milk. Both these proved to be slightly deficient in fat. The follow-up samples proved to be satisfactory, and the producers were informed of the original failure.

Other Food and Drugs

Whisky	1
Rum	1
Ice-cream	1
Marmalade	1
Chopped Ham	1
Aspirin	1
Cochineal	1
Meat Paste	1
Dried Apricots	1
Fruit Juice	1
Cream Sponge Cake	1
Butter	1
Crab Spread	1
Sterilised Cream	1
Codeine Tablets	1
Aluphus Tablets	1
Cream of Tarter	1
Liquorice	1
Jam	1
Curry Powder	1
Luncheon Meat	1
Margarine	1
Colouring	1
Sponge cake mix	1
Raising Powder	1
Dried Plums	1
Lemon Squash	1
Condensed Milk	<u>1</u>

28

All the above samples proved to be genuine, with the exception of the ice-cream, fruit juice and condensed milk.

The sample of ice-cream, submitted to the Analyst as a result of a complaint, was found to contain part of a cigarette, the end of which had been burnt. Legal proceedings were instituted against the vendor who was found guilty and fined £5 with £8 10s. costs

The sample of lemon squash was submitted to the Analyst as a result of a complaint from the Health Department, Bridgnorth R.D.C., and was found to contain a large growth of mould. After the manufacturers had been interviewed, the Clerk of the County Council decided not to institute legal proceedings, but gave a warning that a serious view was taken of the offence.

The sample of condensed milk (Full-Cream Evaporated), was forwarded to the Analyst on a complaint being received from the Health Department, Bridgnorth R.D.C. and was found to be in a curdy condition. On investigation it was found that this tin was nearly four years old. No formal action was taken in the matter, as this particular product has been regularly sampled in the past, all previous reports have been satisfactory, and it appeared that this one non-genuine sample was an isolated case.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION)(SPECIFIED AREAS) ORDER, 1960.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of Samples Submitted</u>	<u>Passed Phosphatase Test</u>	<u>Passed Methylene Blue Test</u>	<u>Passed Turbidity Test</u>
Pasteurised	14	14	14	-
T.T. Pasteurised	23	23	23	-
T.T.C.I. Pasteurised	16	16	16	-
T.T.C.I. Bottled	1	-	1	-
T.T. Bottled	1	-	1	-
T.T. Farm Bottled	2	-	2	-
Sterilised	<u>27</u>	-	-	27
	<u>84</u>			



SECTION 'F'

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following notifications of cases of Infectious Disease were received during the year:-

Measles	-	141
Whooping-cough	-	24
Scarlet Fever	-	7
Acute Pneumonia	-	2
Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	2
Meningococcal Infection	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	<u>1</u>
		<u>179</u>

Following its usual biennial cycle Measles was, as expected, prevalent among the child population of the area in 1963. (There were no notifications of Measles in 1962). The great majority of the cases occurred during the 2nd and 3rd quarters of the year.

The incidence of Whooping-cough throughout the year was low, and all but 1 of the 24 cases occurred during the 4th quarter.

TUBERCULOSIS

Two new cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified in 1963, and there were no new cases of non-respiratory forms of the disease.

A total of 54 cases remained on the Register at 31st December, 1963 as compared with 57, twelve months previously.

PREScribed PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION  
OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspection (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
a) Factories in which Sections 1-4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
b) Factories not included in (a) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority..	28	20	Nil	Nil
c) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total.....	28	20	Nil	Nil

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding.....(S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors.....(S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences(S.7)					
a)Insufficient.....	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
b)Unsuitable or defective	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
c)Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Out-work).....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total.....	1	2	Nil	Nil	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT - OUTWORK  
(SECTIONS 110 and 111)

No persons were notified as being outworkers during 1963.







